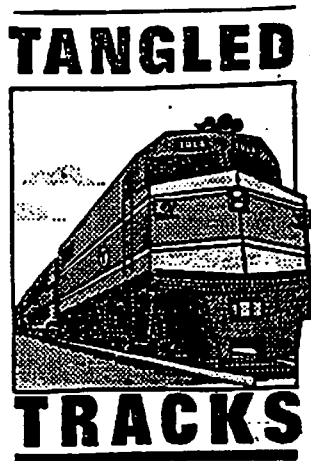


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Patriot Ledger Wednesday, March 22, 1995

# GETTING INVOLVED

**T**he MBTA is accepting public comments on its Greenbush plan from today through May 22. There are several ways you can participate.

## Examine the plan

The details of the Greenbush plan are available at public libraries in towns along the line. Ask to look at a copy of the Old Colony Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement Report.

## Attend an MBTA presentation:

Starting tomorrow in Scituate, the MBTA will hold five meetings to present its plan and answer questions. From 6:30 to 8 p.m. the T will host an open house with documents and displays. Officials will be on hand to discuss the project, and a formal question-and-answer session will follow from 8 to 9.

The meetings will be held at:

- Scituate public library, Branch Road, tomorrow night.
- Braintree Town Hall, Washington Street, Thursday, March 30.
- Hingham Town Hall, East Street, Wednesday, April 5.
- Weymouth Town Hall, Middle Street, Thursday, April 6.
- Cohasset High School, Pond Street, Tuesday, April 11.

## Attend a public hearing:

Before it makes a decision on Greenbush, the MBTA is required to hold three hearings at which officials will listen to the public.

They will be held at:

- The State Transportation Building, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, at 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 12. The hearing will be in conference rooms 2 and 3.
- The Scituate High School auditorium, Route 3A, at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 12.
- The Hingham High School auditorium, 71 Pleasant St., at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 20.

## Submit written comments:

While the MBTA is the agency that is overseeing the Old Colony project, written comments should be sent to either the Federal Transit Administration's regional office at 55 Broadway, Cambridge MA 02142 or to the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs at 100 Cambridge St., 20th floor, Boston MA 02202.

MBTA officials are required to respond to every public comment and include those answers in a final report before they make their decision on Greenbush in June.

Any letters or statements about Old Colony submitted to officials before today must be resubmitted or they will not be included in the final report.

Once the MBTA decides whether to proceed with Greenbush, the Federal Transit Administration and Executive Office of Environmental Affairs will review the report.

## Where to call:

For more information, call MBTA Greenbush project manager Joseph Connor at 617-722-3422.

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**GREENBUSH  
FACTS**

- The rail line runs for 17.7 miles from Braintree to Scituate's Greenbush section.
- Project would cost between \$215 million and \$430 million, depending on whether a tunnel is built under Hingham Square.
- Work would start in 1997 and be completed by the end of 1998.
- Open-air stations would be built at Greenbush, North Scituate, Cohasset, Nantasket Junction in Hingham, West Hingham, East Weymouth and Weymouth Landing.
- Trains would cross roads at 44 locations, the most per mile of any MBTA commuter rail line.
- A trip from Greenbush to Boston would take 58 minutes.
- Tickets would cost between \$2.25 and \$3.50, depending on where riders board the train.
- Trains would make a dozen roundtrips to Boston on weekdays.
- Weekday ridership would reach an estimated 3,200 people by the year 2000.
- Restoration would remove 890 of the 38,000 cars that use Route 3A each weekday, and 440 of the 67,000 cars that use Route 3.
- Noise and vibration from the line would affect more than 200 houses, 13 apartment buildings and one church.

**THE  
LEGISLATORS**

**S**outh Shore legislators who represent towns along or near the Greenbush commuter rail line are split over whether it should be restored.

Here is where they stand:

**Supporters:**

- Rep. Frank Hynes, a Marshfield Democrat, who also represents Scituate.
- Rep. Joseph Sullivan, a Braintree Democrat.
- Rep. Paul Haley, a Weymouth Democrat.
- Rep. Ron Mariano, a Quincy Democrat, whose district includes part of Weymouth.

● Rep. Janet O'Brien, a Hanover Democrat, whose district includes Norwell.

**Opponents:**

- Sen. Robert Hedlund, a Weymouth Republican, whose district also includes Hingham, Hull, Cohasset, Scituate and Duxbury.
- Rep. Mary Jeanette Murray, a Cohasset Republican, who also represents Hingham and Hull.

**Uncommitted:**

Two other legislators say they lean toward supporting Greenbush, but have some concerns.

Sen. Michael Morrissey, a Quincy Democrat, whose district includes Braintree, said "there are still a lot of unanswered questions, about cost, about how we'll pay for this."

And Rep. Francis Marini, a Hanson Republican, whose district includes Duxbury, said "there are real problems in Hingham, and I wouldn't want to presume to tell them what they should be doing."

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